



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Shinzo Yasuda et al.

Art Unit : 1711

Serial No. : 09/762,536

Examiner : P. Hampton Hightower

Filed : February 8, 2001

Title : POLYSUCCINIMIDE (CO)POLYMER DERIVATIVE AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCTION THEREOF

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 9, 2002

In response to the Office Action dated April 9, 2002 ("Office Action"), please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A process for producing a polysuccinimide (co)polymer derivative, comprising reacting a polysuccinimide (co)polymer in a fluidized state with a Lewis base by heating in the presence of a solvent having a low boiling point and high relative permittivity.

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Add new claims 10-16 as follows:

-- 10. The process according to claim 3, wherein said solvent has a relative permittivity of not less than 25.

11. The process according to claim 1, wherein said solvent comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of water, formic acid, methanol and ethanol.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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